

Herculaneum CAG Action Group Meeting Notes

April 20, 2004

Apologies offered for the confusion about tonight's meeting. Originally it had been planned as a general CAG meeting with agency reports. Because of the City meeting dealing with lead issues and agency reports in March, CAG Core Leadership recommended holding the CAG Action Group meeting to plan for the general CAG meeting in May.

February 17 CAG Action Group minutes were corrected to clarify that CAG requests that agencies put all statements/recommendations regarding safety and health in writing so there is accountability and less confusion about which agency is saying what.

April Action Group Agenda was approved.

Update from Priority Focus Groups

Slag Pile. DNR will respond in writing to CAG's questions about the slag pile. The City has a letter from EPA permitting sludge from the sewer to be put on the slag pile.

Interior Dust. ATSDR recommends that interior dust standards be 20 micrograms per square foot for the floor wipe samples (not vacuum samples) and 125 micrograms per square foot for windows.

Health. The Health Focus Group is helping Department of Health and Senior Services (Loreena Anderson) compile a packet of relevant information about lead in Herculaneum. The Water Company will help disseminate packets when new people move to Herculaneum. A draft was available for review. Any suggestions can be forwarded to Katherine Malugen at (636) 475-3665. The Health Priority Focus Group is also recommending an informational workshop for realtors.

Problem Solving. Residents still report dissatisfaction about offers to buy-out property.

Herculaneum Today and Tomorrow focuses on revitalization *vis a vis* lead clean-up and health concerns. It will meet April 22nd. The City is participating so that a newly developed web site can represent the city of Herculaneum. A logo for Herculaneum was designed by high school students (a bell motif showing the river). HTT also looks at funding opportunities, but until there are more specific project plans, it is difficult to apply for grants. There will be a visioning session in the summer so that it can dovetail with the City's strategic planning process. There is a leadership training opportunity in Nebraska. If interested, contact Gerty O'Leary.

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The City of Herculanum reported that 1,000 homes will be built in a new subdivision, Providence Place. It is projected to bring an additional 3,000 residents to Herculanum. Infrastructure improvements will be possible if the \$6 million bond and the two-cent sales tax are passed. New businesses, such as Cracker Barrel and Comfort Inn express interest in coming to the area.

Governor's Advisory Committee on Lead is working to promote a lead bill. It was important to expand its purview to contamination other than lead paint such as in Herculanum.

The Doe Run plant in Peru. People there are attempting to extend the *Palma* to cover 10 years of clean-up operations. (*Palma* is a document similar to the AOC here.)

Announcements

Missouri coalition for the Environment and Washington University Legal Clinic served EPA with a 60 day notice to file a law suit regarding 1.5 ambient air standards. There is a Congressional mandate to review standards every five years and the last time the standard was reviewed was in 1990. Examples of creative ways to deal with pollution were shown on 60 Minutes. Remediation of utilities have been implemented effectively and without raising rates for the consumer.

The City of Herculanum rescinded the motion to allow Doe Run to re-rent properties in the buy-out zone.

Discussion about the impact of the lead issue on people trying to sell homes in Herculanum: What can a property owner do to assure potential buyer that the property is safe? A property owner needs a plain English letter from the appropriate agency (EPA) identifying the level of lead, with chemical information as back up.

Items for May 18 general CAG meeting

Information about the slag pile

Is putting sludge on the slag pile a permanent solution for dealing with sewage?
Is the slag pile footprint expanding?

Interior lead – where are the agencies with adopting the standard recommended by ATSDR?

Put forward the vote that agencies must put their recommendations or assertions about safety of lead levels in writing. (Also that EPA would provide a plain language letter to property owners identifying the lead levels/standards of safety.)